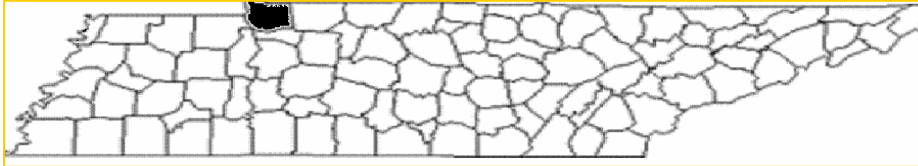


# The Status of Women in Stewart County



## STATUS OF WOMEN IN STEWART COUNTY: AN OVERVIEW

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INDICATOR	DATA	COUNTY RANKING
		(of 95 Counties)
COMPOSITE EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS INDEX	50.80	56
Women's Annual Earnings	\$21,985	25
Women's Earnings as a Percentage of Men's Earnings (Wage Gap)	70.7%	57
Women's Labor Force Participation Rate	39.0%	74
Female Unemployment Rate	6.6%	56
Women in Managerial or Professional Occupations	27.4%	42
COMPOSITE ECONOMIC AUTONOMY INDEX	38.63	26
Businesses that are Women-Owned (% of total)	19.1%	60
Women with a Four-Year College Degree (%)	12.9%	23
Women With a High School Diploma (%)	74.4%	24
Female High School Dropout Rate	11.8%	77
Women with any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage (%)	94.4%	19
Women Earning Incomes Below the Poverty Level (%)	13.8%	24
Single Female-Headed Households Living In Poverty (%)	6.4%	11
Adolescent Pregnancy Rate (Ages 10-19)	38.6	71

**Report Overview:** This publication on the Status of Women in Stewart County is part of a statewide publication of the Tennessee Economic Council on Women, *The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties, 2004*. The Economic Council on Women is a State agency created under TCA § 4-50-100, et seq. by the One Hundredth General Assembly in 1998 to address the economic needs of Tennessee women.

# The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

## STEWART

Women have taken remarkable strides towards economic equality, from education to earnings to political participation. Women are now pursuing goals such as business ownership, leadership roles in their careers, and election to state and federal political office. However, obstacles still exist in the climb toward equality. Nationwide, equal numbers of men and women are obtaining four-year college degrees; however, these gains have not translated into pay equity. The average college-educated woman working full time earns \$44,200 a year compared to \$61,800 for men in the same category. Women are still under-represented in many of the highest paying, fastest growing sectors of the economy. Helping women break into these traditionally male-dominated areas like computer science, engineering, mathematics and technology, as well as all skilled-labor positions, gives women tools for self-sufficiency and understanding of their personal capabilities, and these advances are good for the economy of our counties and of our state.

### Employment and Earnings

The employment and earnings index includes data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of women in managerial or professional occupations.

- ◇ Stewart County ranks in the bottom half of counties in employment and earnings for women but is in the top 30 counties in economic autonomy for women in the state of Tennessee.
- ◇ Women in Stewart County have median annual earnings of \$21,985 while their male counterparts median earnings are \$31,106. Stewart ranks 57th among counties for wage gap (70.7%).
- ◇ 39.0% of women in Stewart County participate in the labor force and still 44.2% of the county's labor force is comprised of women.
- ◇ The female unemployment rate in Stewart County is 4 percent higher than the female unemployment rate in neighboring Houston County. However the female unemployment rate is lower than the overall Stewart County rate (7.6%).
- ◇ Among all working individuals, 23.1% have jobs in managerial or professional fields, but when only female workers are considered, that number increases slightly to 27.4%.

### Economic Autonomy

The economic autonomy index includes information on educational attainment, business ownership and general quality of life issues.

- ◇ Stewart ranks in the top 25 counties in percentage of women with a four-year college degree (12.9%) and percent of women with a high school diploma (74.4%).
- ◇ About the same percentages of men and women have high school degrees but significantly higher percentages of women have bachelor's degrees. 74.3% of county residents have a high school degree and 10.2% of residents have a bachelor's degree.
- ◇ The female high school dropout rate (11.8%) gives Stewart its worst rank of any Economic Autonomy indicator.
- ◇ 13.8% of women earn income below the poverty level and 29.9% of families with a female householder and no husband present live in poverty in Stewart County.
- ◇ Despite making up only 19 percent of privately-owned businesses in Stewart County, women-owned businesses only account for nearly 13 percent of the total sales and receipts of private firms in the county.

# The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

## STEWART

		Stewart County	Rank of Stewart County	Highest Ranking County
<b>Earnings</b>	Median Annual Earnings for FT Females	\$21,985	25	Williamson: \$32,243
	Wage Gap	70.7%	57	Davidson: 82.1%
<b>Employment</b>	Female Labor Force Particip- ation Rate	39.0%	74	Rutherford: 50.9%
	Female Unemployment Rate	6.6%	56	Pickett: 1.5%
	Percent of Employed Fe- males in Management, Prof., and Related Occupations	27.4%	42	Anderson: 44.6%
	Women Owned Business % of Total	19.1%	60	Moore: 63.3%
<b>Education</b>	% of Females with 4 Year Degree or Better	12.9%	23	Williamson: 39.5%
	% of Females with High School Diploma (or equiva- lency)	74.4%	24	Williamson: 90.6%
	Female Dropout Rate	11.8%	77	Clay/Pickett: 0.0%
<b>Lifestyles</b>	% of Women with any kind of Health Insurance Cover- age	94.4%	19	Williamson: 100%
	% of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	13.8%	24	Williamson: 5.4%
	% of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	6.4%	11	Williamson: 2.5%
	Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	38.6	71	Williamson: 1.2

# ABOUT THE COUNCIL AND THIS REPORT

Stewart County

*The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties* report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percentage of women in managerial occupations.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of households headed by a single female, single female headed households living in poverty, percentage of women with health insurance, the high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

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Visit the Tennessee Economic Council on Women at [www.tennesseewomen.org](http://www.tennesseewomen.org)

SOURCES	
Earnings and Employment	
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Earnings)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Employed Females in Management, Professional, and Related Occupations	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Economic Autonomy	
Women-owned Business, Percent of total	Economic Census, 1997
Percent of Females w/4yr Degree or Better	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Females with a High School Diploma (or equivalency)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Dropout Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Women with Any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002
Percent of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002
Voter Demographics and Elected County Officials	National Association of Counties